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RURAL DISTRICT OF HAILSHAM

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1947

L. A. COLLINS, M.B., B.CH., D.P.M., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE
HAILSHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
1947.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hailsham Rural District Council.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1947.

The year was noted for the largest epidemic in history of Poliomyelitis in England and Wales. Naturally this district had its share of the cases, but there were no deaths from this cause in the district. Details are given under the appropriate heading in this report.

Much time and thought were directed in the year to problems in connection with the National Health Service Act, 1946, which comes into force on the 5th July, 1948. As this subject has been the centre of so much controversy, it seems better at this stage to make no comment, but to keep an open mind ready to adapt to all eventualities in the light of future experience.

I am indebted to the whole staff of the Public Health Department for their loyalty and the keenness with which they have carried out their multifarious duties throughout the year. In particular Mr. E. J. J. Chapman, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, has devoted his untiring energy whole-heartedly to the work of the department.

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support during the year.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Medical Officer of Health.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of cases of Measles notified was 198, compared with 56 in the previous year. The majority of these cases occurred in the first quarter of the year.

There was also an increase in the number of cases of Whooping Cough, being 111 compared with 40 in the previous year.

Scarlet Fever showed a slight reduction, 27 cases being notified, compared with 50 in the previous year. It is satisfactory to note that a higher proportion of these cases were able to be treated at home.

Scarlet Fever as a disease has of recent years been of a more benign nature than in the past, and if this state continues, the need for treating these cases in hospital becomes less, provided that the housing conditions are satisfactory.

There were two cases of Diphtheria in the year. One was an adult woman who was treated satisfactorily at home. The other case was a girl aged 10. This case was treated in hospital and was a fairly severe case, but made a satisfactory recovery. Records showed that this girl had been immunised against diphtheria in 1945. Fortunately the other children in the same household had also been immunised against diphtheria and there were no further cases.

There were no cases of Typhoid, Para-typhoid or Food poisoning notified in the course of the year.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS (INFANTILE PARALYSIS).

During the latter half of 1947 there was a wide-spread epidemic of Acute Poliomyelitis throughout the whole country. This district naturally had its share of the cases.

There were eight cases notified in this district, which corresponds fairly closely to the attack rate in the whole country which is stated to have been approximately 18 per 100,000 population. In addition four other suspicious cases were removed to the Isolation Hospital for observation, but the diagnosis was not confirmed. Several other suspicious cases were also kept under observation in their homes, which were eventually proved to be suffering from other diseases or recovered completely without any evidence of having suffered from infantile paralysis.

The first case of Acute Poliomyelitis in this district occurred in early August. It was a boy aged 7 years on holiday from Lewisham. When the diagnosis was suspected he was allowed to return to Lewisham by private car, where the diagnosis was

confirmed. It was subsequently confirmed that he had been in contact with another case in Lewisham. The notification was accepted by the Lewisham Metropolitan Borough.

Later an adult woman, aged 34, in the household where the boy had been staying on holiday, was taken ill. On account of the suspicious symptoms she was removed to the Isolation Hospital for observation. However, she made an uneventful recovery in five days and the diagnosis was not confirmed.

Five other cases (aged 4, 5, 26, 30 and 35 years) were admitted to hospital in the month of August. Of these, two were definite mild cases with slight paralytic symptoms, two were very mild cases with no paralytic symptoms, and in one case the diagnosis was not confirmed.

From September to December six cases (aged 4, 5, 13, 17, 30 and 35 years) were removed to hospital. In two of these cases the diagnosis was not confirmed, three cases were fairly mild and one case occurring in a pregnant woman was severe.

There were no deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis occurring in this district.

Among all the confirmed cases it was only possible to detect 'case-to-case contact' in two children living close together in the same small hamlet.

A considerable amount of time was employed in the tracing and surveillance of contacts of cases reported from other districts, but in view of our present knowledge of the epidemiology of the disease, it is doubtful whether such action is profitable.

There was some difficulty with isolation hospital accommodation, as owing to shortage of staff the Eastbourne Isolation Hospital was unable to accept further cases in the height of the epidemic. This was solved by admitting some cases to the Brighton Infectious Diseases Hospital.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Regular diphtheria immunisation clinics were held at Hailsham Polegate and Heathfield during the year. In addition clinics were also held at Herstmonceux, Pevensey, Ninfield, Willingdon and Cross-in-Hand on occasions.

As I rely mainly on the personal propoganda carried out by myself and the district nurses, I consider it well worth while holding clinics in as many centres as possible. In this way a few extra cases in the immediate neighbourhood of the clinic are often brought into the scheme. Transport is provided for necessary cases from outlying areas to the clinics.

The total number of children who completed a full course of immunisation during the year was 479, which compares with 424 for the previous year.

The number of refresher doses given was 326, which compares with 224 in the previous year.

In the annual return for Diphtheria Immunisation for the year ending 31st December, 1947, the number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation was 1,432 under 5 years, and 4,172 from 5-15 years. This gives a percentage of 54.5% of the estimated mid-year population for 1947 of children under 5 and 98.7% of children from 5-15 years, who had completed a full course of immunisation.

It should be noted that these figures are derived from a careful counting of all the records in our files. Thus I would suggest that the figure of 54.5% for children under 5 years is a slight under-statement of the real position, as many children are immunised by their private doctors, from whom we may not have received full records. Again I would suggest that the figure of 98.7% for children from 5-15 years is a slight overstatement of the real position. During school medical inspections I take particulars of children requiring refresher doses, and when these are performed these cases will be added to our records, although some may have come into this district from other areas. On the other hand, although some cases are abstracted when a child removes to another district, it is not always that information is received of such removal and the retained records will swell the figures. However, my impression derived from my check at school medical inspections is that the figure for children from 5-15 years is certainly over 95%.

On the whole I am very satisfied with the response of the public to the diphtheria immunisation campaign in this district.

SCABIES.

Scabies is not a notifiable disease in this district, but arrangements are made for the treatment by District Nurses of any cases referred to this Department. During the year 29 children and 26 adults, making a total of 55 cases, have been so treated.

Although this low total may be partly due to the fact that this department is not aware of all the cases treated, I did gain the impression from school medical inspections that the incidence of this disease was very much lower than in recent years.

The abnormal conditions caused by the war and the evacuation of large numbers of infected children no longer existed and scabies had become once again a relatively uncommon disease.

FREE SUPPLY OF INSULIN.

Insulin was supplied free of charge to 5 patients in the course of the year in accordance with Circular 2734 of the Ministry of Health dated 4th January, 1943, which authorises Local Authorities to supply Insulin to Diabetics who cannot afford it.

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STATISTICS.

Areas in Acres	94,629
Census Population (1931)	30,392
No. of Inhabited Houses	10,905
Rateable Value	£279,426
Sum Represented by Penny Rate	£1,116
Population estimated to middle of year...	35,380
Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	19.7
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Registered Live Births	38.4
Total Death Rate per 1,000 (not corrected)	13.65
Senile Mortality as percentage of Total Deaths (65 and over)	87.78

BIRTHS—Legitimate: Total, 619. Males: 307. Females: 312.
Illegitimate: ,, 38. Males: 15. Females: 23.

Comparative Vital Statistics.

	Birth Rate	Infantile Mortality	Death Rate
Hailsham Rural	19.7	38.4	13.65
England and Wales...	20.5	41.0	12.0

It should be noted that owing to the variety and magnitude of local population movements, no Comparability Factor is at present produced by the Registrar General. If such a factor were used for this district the death rate would be appreciably lower than that quoted above.

Causes of Death.

		Males	Females
1.	Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	—	—
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	—	1
5.	Diphtheria	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	9	—
7.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis	—	1
8.	Syphilitic Diseases	—	—
9.	Influenza	1	1
10.	Measles	—	—
11.	Ac. Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis ...	—	—

Causes of Death (Contd.)

		Males	Females
12.	Ac. Infectious Encephalitis	—	—
13.	Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (m) Uterus (f)	—	6
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	6	4
15.	Cancer of Breast	—	10
16.	Cancer of all other sites	23	25
17.	Diabetes	2	5
18.	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions	32	33
19.	Heart Diseases	86	72
20.	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	9	7
21.	Bronchitis	12	10
22.	Pneumonia	15	11
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases	5	2
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	3	—
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	—
26.	Appendicitis	2	1
27.	Other Digestive Diseases	4	8
28.	Nephritis	13	9
29.	Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	—	1
30.	Other maternal causes	—	1
31.	Premature Birth	2	1
32.	Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infant Diseases	7	7
33.	Suicide	—	—
34.	Road Traffic Accidents	1	2
35.	Other Violent Causes	3	4
36.	All other causes	13	12
		249	234

Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer of Health (part-time) also Assistant School Medical Officer for East Sussex County Council.	Dr. L. A. Collins, M.B., B.Ch, D.P.M., D.P.H.
Senior Sanitary and Meat and Food Inspector	E. J. J. Chapman, F.G.S., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors...	M. F. Warman, L. E. Scott, R. R. Creasey.
Sanitary Assistant and Rodent Operator	J. F. Stanford.
Rodent Operator	R. Cousins.
Clerical Assistants	Miss M. Catt, Miss M. O. Stanford, Miss V. Sherin.

Cases of Infectious Diseases in Age Groups

Notifiable Diseases	Age not known	Under 1 year	1—2 years	2—3 years	3—4 years	4—5 years	5—10 years	10—15 years	15—20 years	20—35 years	35—45 years	45—65 years	65 & upwards	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	2	4	2	14	3	—	1	—	—	—	27
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2
Pneumonia	1	3	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	3	—	4	15
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	2	11
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pueperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	2	—	—	8
Measles	2	4	10	14	14	25	88	18	10	4	7	2	—	198
Whooping Cough	—	8	7	4	13	19	50	7	1	1	1	—	—	111

Cases Notified or Admitted to Hospital and Total Deaths.

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths in † Hospital
Scarlet Fever	27	16	—
Diphtheria	2	1	—
Pneumonia	15	—	—
Erysipelas	11	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever...	3	3	—
Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis...	8	12*	—
Measles...	198	4	—
Whooping Cough	111	2	—

† Isolation Hospital. * Including unconfirmed cases.

Number of Cases Removed to Isolation Hospital each Month.

Disease	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	7	—	5	—	—
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
*Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	2	2	1
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Measles	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	2	3	2	3	2	1	1	13	1	9	2	1

* Including Unconfirmed Cases.

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15 years	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 years	3	3	—	1	—	1	—	1
25-35 years	2	3	—	—	2	—	—	—
35-45 years	5	1	1	—	1	—	—	—
45-55 years	3	2	1	1	2	—	1	—
55-65 years	3	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	3	—	1	—	2	—	1	—
Total ...	22	11	7	2	8	1	2	1

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Unusual activity has been displayed during the year in connection with the supply and delivery of Emergency Water to those parts of the District which are not traversed by Companies mains, and also in the inspection of wells and springs which had become dry, diminished, or impaired by drought or pollution. In such cases the sources have been chemically treated and restored to a safe and potable state, but the low rainfall has seriously affected the superficial wells and some deeper sources in the Western, West Central and North Eastern Parishes where mains are not available.

It follows that the Emergency Scheme provided by the Council for the delivery of water to householders has been invaluable.

In October deliveries were undertaken by direct Service in place of a hired Contractor, when the Council purchased a 450 gallon Tanker, and by this means, to the end of the year 171,200 gallons were delivered. The improved service has been greatly appreciated by householders and during periods of emergency the Tanker was operating 14 hours a day and has proved very economical.

The Council have given special consideration to the water supplies in those parts of the area unserved by mains, where owing to the precarious state of sources the position in regard to present and future needs was unsatisfactory due to excessive ferruginity or inadequacy. In this connection the problem has been examined by a group of Water Undertakers and Councils constituting a Joint Advisory Committee which has prepared and submitted a Report to the Ministry of Health.

It is earnestly hoped that the drought conditions of last summer will not recur or the work of the Emergency Scheme will be much overloaded, and for like reasons, it is of the utmost importance that the projected schemes of extensions be commenced as soon as practicable. No complaints have been received against the quality of water supplied by either of the few companies serving the areas, samples of whose water have been submitted for analysis periodically and show that the quality has been maintained at a high level.

In all cases water has been subjected to chemical treatment particularly in those drawn from the Tunbridge Wells and Ashdown Sands, in the centre and northern parts of the district, where waters of high ferruginity are relied upon. This treatment has removed the danger of plumbo-solvent action in mains and service pipes and has retarded encrustations.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Although the need for sewerage schemes has become more urgent in several localities it was not found possible to carry out extensions or put down new sewers except to drain the Council's new housing sites at Hailsham, Heathfield, Herstmonceux, Polegate and Westham.

No major works have been carried out at any of the sewage disposal works although the plants at Herstmonceux and Polegate are becoming overloaded. Schemes are, however, being prepared by the Surveyors Department for improving the position generally.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

These sources of supply to farms and premises have been closely watched and prompt action taken to arrest any deliberate pollution found. I regret to state that the idea is still prevalent that ditches or streams are the natural and proper means into which to conduct farm filth or cesspool effluents. This practice has accordingly been responsible for much activity in connection with polluted wells and sources for the watering of cattle, but in spite of the slowness of progress in educating the public in this matter, I am able to report a considerable improvement.

The prolonged drought in the summer caused many to have recourse to streams for domestic and farm needs when owing to diminished flows, the danger from pollution became intensified. Much activity was accordingly devoted to improvement, protection and treatment of sources to render them safe.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The replacement of the old and uneconomical lorries by new Dennis vehicles, of 10 cu. yds. capacity, continued, but delay in delivery of necessary vehicles prevented the application of the Scheme for the whole district before the 5th January, 1948.

Immediately following delivery in December, attention was directed to removing accumulations and disfigurements in many parts of the district.

Although 1948 will see the institution of a district scheme, part monthly and part fortnightly, one can only hope that every parish will enjoy at least fortnightly services before another twelve months have elapsed.

No. of cu. yards refuse collected, 10,542.

WET CLEANSING

In August the control of the cesspool emptying scheme in Heathfield and Waldron was taken over from the Surveyors Department, thus all the transport owned by the Council is now operated by the Health Department.

The Dennis Cesspool Emptier is able to provide a much more hygienic service than the horse and carts which were used by the contractors until the Council instituted its direct labour scheme in 1946. 1,423 loads were dealt with.

Towards the end of the year the Ministry of Health approved the purchase of two additional Cesspool Emptiers to be used on the "Pay-as-we-empty" service decided upon by the Council. Whether or not this service becomes a fact in the next two or three years would seem to be dependent upon the success of the Export Drive.

It is to be hoped that the twice weekly appearance of that relic of past centuries, the night soil cart, in the parish of Alfriston will cease within the next few years, but this will not happen until the resewering of the village is an accomplished fact.

DISTRICT SALVAGE SCHEME

With the extension of a refuse collection scheme to the whole area, it is anticipated that the proceeds from salvage collection will continue to be satisfactory and counteract any slackening in enthusiasm by the Salvage Stewards.

Proceeds from the sale of salvage during the year amounted to £1,758 0s. 10d. from a total weight of 229½ tons.

FACTORIES ACT

Details of inspection under this Act are shewn in the Summary.

Relations with the H.M. Factories Inspector have improved considerably since the war with benefit to both sides in maintenance of records.

HOUSING

Although little new building other than Council houses has been allowed during the year, the position regarding materials for maintenance improved considerably and enabled the Department to require increased repair work to be carried out than in 1946. By this means many houses have been restored to a habitable state and improvements and amenities formerly lacking have been made available.

One undertaking under Section 11 of the Housing Act in respect of an unfit house was given during the year.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Upon the engagement of an additional qualified officer for work primarily on the Rural Housing Survey, progress was speeded up. The number of houses in Category V, i.e. those beyond repair at a reasonable cost: 253 out of 3,960 and the rehousing of families in these houses, will have to be taken into account when the conditions of those living in overcrowded properties have been relieved. It is disturbing to think that of the number of houses in Category III, i.e. requiring major repairs, and under £26 R.V., a large proportion will have deteriorated so much as to qualify for demolition (Cat. V) unless reconditioning is undertaken at an early date.

It is gratifying to report that the number of cottages repaired without strict regard to cost, is high, but it is regrettable to find that many were not afterwards occupied by members of the working classes.

	Cat. I	Cat. II	Cat. III	Cat. IV	Cat. V	Total
No. of houses inspected in 1947	520	797	867	92	49	2,233
Total No. of houses inspected since commencement of Survey	613	1,212	1,882	357	253	3,960

Houses shown in Category IV: housing Agricultural Workers and may be included in either of Cats. III or V.

OVERCROWDING

Investigations into the conditions of the homes of applicants for Council Houses have revealed that there is considerable overcrowding in the area, due to young married couples living with their parents rather than as a result of large families. Twenty-four cases of overcrowding were abated by the transfer of families to Council estates.

The need for three-bedroomed houses is accordingly becoming less acute than that for two-bedroomed houses or flats to accommodate childless couples, aged or otherwise.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926

Premises which are sub-standard as regards construction, water supply or drainage have been inspected and considerable improvement in conditions has resulted.

Much time has been given to requests from farmers for assistance and advice in order that their premises may be made fit for the production of "Designated Milks."

Twenty-six samples were taken for bacteriological examination. Where results are unsatisfactory, steps are taken to obtain improvement.

No. of samples passing Methylene Blue Test ...	14
,, ,, ,, failing ,, ,, ,, ...	11

One sample soured before arrival at Laboratory.

Although samples were taken for butter fat content, none were found to be deficient, although four were below the minimum of 8.5% for solids not fat.

A case of considerable interest to the Department was the diagnosis of bovine tuberculosis in four children of one family, all members of a farmer's household. As a result eighteen samples of milk were taken and submitted for microscopical and bacteriological examination for tubercle bacilli. No evidence of this organism was found, however, in any of the samples.

During the summer months a ½ pint bottle of milk was seized under Section 10 of the Food & Drugs Act as it contained a considerable quantity of flies and other filth. Although it was obvious that the bottle had not been cleansed and it was suspected that the roundsman had filled it after leaving the dairy, no definite proof was available and no Court action could be taken.

Statutory Notices were served in respect of unsuitable premises, on six farmers, two of whom later gave up milk production. As these Notices are of eighteen months duration, the results of the Council's action have not yet fully materialised.

FOOD INSPECTION

All Foodstuffs receive close supervision and although over 3½ tons were withheld from human consumption, nearly half was the result of a fire in a food store. The list given later may give some idea of the diversity of foodstuffs upon which the Department are asked to give judgement and to issue Certificates of Unfitness for human food.

No cases of suspected food poisoning or illness due to impaired foods were notified.

Total number of animals inspected (1 calf, 3 sheep, 286 pigs).	290
Total weight of carcases inspected	71,248 lbs.
Total weight of unsound meat withheld	1,518 lbs.

Tuberculosis.

5 Pigs Heads.		
1 ,, Collar.		
3 ,, Mesenteries.		
3 ,, Spleens.		
4 ,, Plucks		146 lbs.

Bone Taint.

Argentine Beef	1,248 lbs.	
English ,, ...	12 lbs.	
	———	1,260 lbs.

Bruising.

Argentine Beef	10 lbs.	
English ,, ...	42 lbs.	
	———	52 lbs.

Caseous Lymphadenitis.

Shoulder of Mutton	4 lbs.

Metritis.

1 Sheep's carcase	56 lbs.

MISCELLANEOUS UNSOUND FOOD DEALT WITH BY THIS DEPARTMENT

Quantity	*Description*	*Weight* (lbs.)
11 Tins	Household Salmon	10
24 Tins	Salmon Grade I	$9\frac{1}{2}$
30 Tins	Salmon Grade III	$28\frac{1}{2}$
18 Tins	Silver Hake	18
Sundry	Bloaters	77
1 Tin	Cod	1
Sundry	Fish (Kippers, Cod, Haddock, Bream Filletts)	501
13 Tins	Pilchards	$11\frac{3}{4}$
4 Tins	Sardines	$1\frac{1}{4}$
1 Tin	S. A. Crawfish	$\frac{1}{2}$
5 Tins	Fish paste	$2\frac{1}{2}$
6 Tins	Meat and vegetable	6
5 Tins	Meat Roll	$12\frac{1}{2}$
1 Tin	Minced beef	1
47 Tins	Steak and Kidney	49
3 Tins	Chopped Ham	$2\frac{1}{2}$
4 Tins	Luncheon Meat	$8\frac{1}{4}$
19 Tins	Sausage Meat	$34\frac{3}{4}$
1 Tin	Chopped Lunch Meat	1
1 Tin	Chopped Pork	$\frac{3}{4}$

Quantity	*Description*	*Weight* (lbs.)
14 Tins	Soups	14
Sundry	Bacon	123
1½ dozen	Danish Eggs	2¾
10 dozen	English Eggs	20
44 Pkts.	Dried Egg	610
1 Tin	Cheese and Savory Role	1
Sundry	Cheesdale Cheese	5
Sundry	Cheese	8¼
Sundry	Camembert Cheese	½
1 Tin	Macaroni Cheese	1
Sundry	Margarine	4¼
Sundry	Butter	26¾
Sundry	Cooking Fat	2¾
2 Pkts.	Puffed Wheat	1
Sundry	Biscuits	3½
30 Pkts.	Flour	90
Sundry	Oatmeal	5
2 Pkts.	Porridge Oats	2
Sundry	Slab cake	3
1 Sack	Soya Flour	112
1 Sack	Pea Flour	112
1 Pkt.	Quaker Oats	1
Sundry	Macaroni	9
3 Sacks	Spaghetti	30
1 Pkt.	Drinking Choc.	½
1 Bag	Cocoa	56
6 Pkts.	Custard Powder	½
1 Pkt.	Cramola Sponge	½
1 Pkt.	Master Mix Sponge	½
Sundry	Sugar	2,955½
Sundry	Tea	1,320½
Sundry	Boiled Sweets	3¾
3 Tins	Syrup	6
803 Tins	Evaporated Milk	714
45 Tins	Condensed Milk	46¾
10 Tins	Marmalade	11½
149-2 lbs.	Jam	298
11-1 lb.	Jam	11
36 Jars	Mincemeat	36
Sundry	Prunes	1½
Sundry	Dried Figs	48
8 Boxes	Raisins and Currants	200
1 Pkt.	Dates	1

Quantity	*Description*	*Weight* (lbs.)
49 Tins	Grapefruit	28
9 Tins	Apricots	22½
9 Tins	Plums	13½
4 Tins	Peaches	8
21 Tins	Pineapples	47½
8 Tins	Diced Carrots	14¾
Sundry	Tomatoes	58
1 Tin	Veg. Mayonnaise	½
2 Tins	Silver Beet	1½
Sundry	Potatoes	84
49 Tins	Peas	92
69 Tins	Baked Beans	58¾
4 Jars	Various Pickles	3
4 Tins	Beetroot	7
1 Pkt.	Macrice	1
2 Pkts.	Jellies	½
2 Syphons	Soda Water	—
2-1 gall.	Concentrated Orange Juice	22
		8,138½

SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND KNACKERS YARDS.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The thirteen licensed slaughter houses in the district were engaged during the winter months in killing pigs for farmers and cottagers whilst the home-killed meat in the meagre weekly ration was slaughtered at the Central Slaughterhouse, Langney.

Thanks to the co-operation given by the Local Food Office, much of the slaughtering in unsatisfactory buildings at farms and cottages has ceased, and most of the pigs are killed in the licensed slaughterhouses by licensed slaughtermen.

RODENT CONTROL.

In May the Council appointed a full-time Rodent Operator to assist the Rodent Officer in dealing with ever increasing numbers of requests for advice and help. This appointment was approved by the Ministry of Food subject to the Council discontinuing their 2d. per tail payments. This scheme although frowned upon by the Ministry had accounted for 21,874 rats since its inception in 1942.

A report is submitted each quarter to the Workable Area Committee and the following table summarises the reports submitted during the year.

1947	Estimated Kill	RATS Infestations Major	RATS Infestations Minor	MICE Infestations Major	MICE Infestations Minor	Rat Tails	No. of Visits	Total No. of Disinfestations
Jan./Mar.	89	1	8	—	1	375		7
Apr./June	1,562	7	10	1	3	771		21
July/Sept.	4,390	16	16	—	2	—		33
Oct./Dec.	3,625	13	14	2	—	—		27

The whole of the Council sewers were test baited in the last quarter of the year and it is satisfactory to note that only two areas were found to be infested and these were subsequently treated.

The contracts made annually with the County Agricultural Committee were not renewed as it was found possible to deal with sewage works and refuse tips more effectively by direct labour.

SWIMMING POOL

The hot weather in the summer made this pool a very popular resort with visitors from many miles and in view of the heavy use made, the water was sampled for chlorine content on a number of occasions in order to check the efficiency of the filtration plant. The majority of the samples were satisfactory. The improved conditions of the closet and dressing accommodation were maintained.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY DEFECTS AND NOTICES AND/OR IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Public Health Nuisances and Inspections		574
Complaints Recorded		289
Public Cleansing and Salvage		1,507
Drainage and re-drainage		297
Closet Accommodation		17
Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.—Registered Premises 729. Inspections ...		275
Milk Sampling:		
Chemical Exams. **Butter Fat:**		
Below standard— 0		
3.0%—3.5% — 2		20
3.5%—4.0% — 0		
Over 4.0% — 18		

Solids—not Fat:		
Below standard— 2		
8.5%—9.0% — 9		20
Over 9.0% — 2		
Slaughterhouses, Shops, Foodstores ...	Inspections	492
Bakehouses	„	5
Catering Establishments	„	31
Ice Cream Shops	„	61
Knackers Yards	„	43
Water Analyses: *Formal Chemical:*		
Satisfactory — 6		
Unsatisfactory — 27		
Bacteriological:		
Satisfactory — 6		
Unsatisfactory — 18		57
Water Sources examined, protected and/or corrected, Investigations re Sources and application for mains...		673
Emergency Scheme. Gallons delivered to consumers ...		249,300
„ supplied to Private Contractor		11,200
Housing Inspections		2,233
Housing Re-inspections		755
Housing Requisitioning		167
Selection of Tenants for Council Houses ...	Visits	497
Cesspool Emptying...		43
Pollution of Streams and Watercourses		79
Accumulations of Refuse and Filth		5
Improper Keeping of Animals		11
Rooms disinfected or fumigated following Infectious Diseases		84
Infectious Diseases	Inspections	82
Verminous Premises: Bedbugs—4, Fleas—12, Flies—9, Cockroaches—4, Weevil—1, Wasps —1, Timber Beetle—3		35
Tents, Vans and Sheds		262
Factories and Workshops		217
Schools		8
Markets		7
Swimming Pools		35
Miscellaneous		982
		10,223

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